

[Rebuttal to the Argument in Favor of Proposition 86]

[7/20/2006 2:14 PM (PST)]

Helping people stop smoking and keeping kids from starting is important. Unfortunately, less than 10% of the \$2.1 billion in new tax money goes to programs that help smokers quit or keep kids from starting. Here's what's really in the initiative:

- Huge hospital corporations are spending millions promoting Prop. 86 because they will pocket hundreds of millions of dollars every year. HMOs will also get millions of dollars each year.
- Almost 40% of the \$2.1 billion in new tax money from Prop. 86 goes to hospitals – THAT'S OVER \$800 MILLION A YEAR THAT HAS VIRTUALLY NOTHING TO DO WITH STOPPING SMOKING!
- The \$2.1 billion comes from an unfair \$2.60 tax increase on each pack of cigarettes – an increase of almost 300%.

Here's what Prop. 86 is really all about:

- Section 9 gives hospitals an exemption to antitrust laws.
- There's nothing in Prop. 86 that limits what hospitals can charge taxpayers for emergency services for the uninsured. This amounts to an open taxpayer checkbook!
- There are no guarantees on how the money will be spent.

**SUBJECT TO COURT
ORDERED CHANGES**

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF

PROPOSITION 86

- Under California law approved by voters (Proposition 98), approximately 40% of any new taxes are dedicated to our schools. The huge hospital corporations don't want to share with our schools and kids, so they included a CONSTITUTIONAL EXEMPTION (Section 15) so that NONE of these funds will go to our schools.

Check it out for yourself: www.86facts.org

Prop. 86 is really about special interests amending our Constitution for their benefit.

No on 86.

Monica Weisbrich, RN

Operating Room Nurse

Jaime Rojas

President, California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce

Malcolm Simpson

Public School Teacher

**SUBJECT TO COURT
ORDERED CHANGES**